

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 471

2 INTRODUCED BY D. BARTEL

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS FROM
5 PURCHASING AGRICULTURAL LAND; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
6 EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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10 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Definitions.** As used in [sections 1 through 3], unless the context clearly
11 indicates otherwise, the following definitions apply:

12 (1) "Agricultural land" means class three property as defined in 15-6-133.

13 (2) "Nonprofit corporation" means an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c) of the
14 Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 501(c), as amended.

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16 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Acquisition of agricultural land by nonprofit corporations --**
17 **prohibited.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), nonprofit corporations may not purchase agricultural land
18 in parcels larger than 160 acres on or after [the effective date of this act].

19 (2) This section does not apply to:

20 (a) churches or religious corporations;

21 (b) schools, colleges, or universities;

22 (c) hospitals, medical research organizations, or facilities that care for the elderly or handicapped; or

23 (d) organizations that provide low-income housing.

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25 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified
26 as an integral part of Title 35, chapter 2, and the provisions of Title 35, chapter 2, apply to [sections 1 and 2].

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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

